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TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE AT SEVEN ISLANDS WILDLIFE REFUGE, KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE

DAN AND LAURIE MOONEY
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On 20 November 2005, Dan and Laurie Mooney observed a Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*), at Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge in east Knox County, Tennessee.

We had been scanning large flocks of American Robins(*Turdus migratorius*) and Cedar Waxwings(*Bombycilla cedrorum*) that were feeding on cedar berries in the area. Laurie noticed a single bird perched on the bare branches at the top of a mature honey locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*) that stands 10 m away from a line of eastern red cedars (*Juniperus virginiana)* bordering the west side of Schumpert's Pond. She did not recognize the bird and described it to Dan as gray with a roundish head and lightish markings in the wings. Laurie uses Minox 8X32 PC binoculars, marketed by Eagle Optics as Raptor PC. After hearing her description, Dan observed the bird using a Swarovski HD 80 spotting scope with 20-60X zoom.

Even with strong back-lighting of gray skies, Dan was quickly able to eliminate the expected local species. We eliminated Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) by eye-ring, shade of gray, and wing-markings. Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) was eliminated by the eye-ring, overall color and the wing-markings. Dan asked Laurie to look up Townsend's Solitaire in *The Sibley Guide to Birds* (Sibley 2000). Dan described the bird as Laurie confirmed each field mark with the illustration in the book. We did not make note of the bird's tail length at the time of the observation.

We immediately broke out the camera to document the sighting. Digiscope photos were taken from about 50 m looking into a gray sky. After just two photos, the bird flew into the line of cedars along the pond and was out of sight. In flight, white outer tail feathers were visible, as well as buffy wing markings.

We waited in the area for 10 or 15 minutes and the bird reappeared in the same honey locust tree where it had first been observed. Dan approached the tree and shot several pictures from about 20 m away using a 300-mm zoom lens at full power. These photos were badly backlit as well. The bird remained perched in the tree for approximately another five minutes before flying back into the trees along the edge of the pond and out of sight. We waited for another 20 minutes, but the bird did not reappear. Despite repeated searches by many individuals in the following weeks, the bird was not relocated.

Townsend's Solitaire breeds in the mountainous areas of western North America from Alaska south to northern Mexico. Their wintering range covers most of the western United States in areas where junipers are present, but the species is a regular winter vagrant to the eastern U.S. (Sibley 2000). A review of official state bird checklists shows that there are currently accepted records from three bordering states (Arkansas, Missouri, and Mississippi) and 14 states east of the Mississippi River. Most of the previous records are from northern states with the species being recorded in only three southeastern states (Arkansas, Mississippi, and South Carolina).

Written documentation and photographs of the bird were submitted to the Tennessee Bird Records Committee. The record was accepted with a vote of 5-1, and Townsend's Solitaire has been added to the Official Checklist of the Birds of Tennessee with a status of Accidental' (Edwards 2006).

Many thanks to Chris Welsh, Dean Edwards, and Rick Knight for their editorial review and recommendations on this article.

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The Migrant 77 (1): 3-7, 2006

2005-2006 REPORT OF THE TENNESSEE BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

K. DEAN EDWARDS, SECRETARY
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The Tennessee Bird Records Committee (TBRC) is charged with the responsibility of maintaining the Official Checklist of the Birds of Tennessee and ensuring that sightings of rare species are accurately and adequately documented for posterity. Bird sighting reports submitted to the TBRC are reviewed by the six voting members unless the report under review was submitted by one of the voting members, in which case the alternate stands-in for that member during the review process. After reviewing the report, the Committee members vote on whether or not the report sufficiently and accurately documents the observed species and thus constitutes an official record of occurrence for that species within the state. At least five members of the TBRC must vote to accept a report as valid before it is considered an accepted record. Species are placed on the Official Checklist when there is an accepted record of the species that includes an extant, verifiable specimen, photograph, or voice recording along with the written documentation or there are three accepted, independent sight records (written documentation only). Species with only one or two accepted sight records are placed on the Official Checklist with the designation of Provisional status.

This report summarizes the actions taken by the TBRC on sighting reports reviewed during 2005 and 2006. During that period, 15 reports were reviewed by the TBRC, all of which were accepted as official records. As a result, six species are added to the Official Checklist: Mottled Duck, Thayer's Gull, White-winged Dove, Inca Dove, Townsend's Solitaire, and Golden-crowned Sparrow. Additionally, the status of California Gull on the Official Checklist is changed from Provisional to Accidental.

Committee members that voted on the reports reviewed during this period include Dean Edwards (Secretary, 2006), John Henderson, Don Miller, Rob Peeples, Dick Preston, Chris Sloan, and Michael Todd (Secretary, 2005). Kevin Calhoon and Nell Moore served on the TBRC as alternates during this period but did not vote on any reports.

The Committee wishes to thank all of those that submitted reports and to encourage everyone to document their bird sightings and submit reports of new and rare species to the Committee for review.

ACCEPTED RECORDS

Mottled Duck (*Anas fulvigula*)

Photographs and written documentation of a pair of birds at Eagle Creek in Henry County from 24-30 September 2005 were submitted by Michael Todd [Sloan

and Palmer-Ball 2006a (includes photo)]. The record is accepted with a vote of 6-0. This is the first accepted record of Mottled Duck in Tennessee, and the species is added to the Official Checklist with the status of Casual. There are three previous reports of Mottled Duck at the EARTH Complex in Shelby County, TN, which have been published but not submitted to nor reviewed by the TBRC: a single bird 4-7 October 2003 by Jeff Wilson [Peeples 2004a; Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2004a (includes photo)], a single bird 28 August through 15 October 2004 by Jeff Wilson and Michael Todd [Peeples 2005a; Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2005a (includes photo)], and a pair on 27 April 2005 by Jeff Wilson [Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2005c]. The Committee would like to request that documentation for these earlier reports be submitted for review.

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*)

Written documentation of a single bird on Center Hill Lake in DeKalb County on 9 March 2005 was submitted by Stephen Stedman [Casteel 2005; Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2005c]. The record is accepted with a vote of 6-0. Pacific Loon is already on the Official Checklist with a status of Casual.

White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*)

Photographs and written documentation of a single bird at Fort Campbell in Montgomery County from 7-11 April 2003 were submitted by Daniel Moss [Casteel 2003; Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2003]. The record is accepted with a vote of 6-0. White-tailed Kite is already on the Official Checklist with a status of Accidental.

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*)

Photographs and written documentation of two birds at Rankin WMA in Cocke County on 7 May 2004 were submitted by Charlie Muise [Knight 2004; Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2004c]. The record is accepted with a vote of 6-0. Black-necked Stilt is already on the Official Checklist with a status of Regular Breeder along the Mississippi River; however, this is only the second record of the species from East Tennessee.

California Gull (*Larus californicus*)

Photographs and written documentation of a single, adult bird at Pace Point in the Big Sandy Unit of the Tennessee NWR in Henry County from 25 February to 9 March 2004 were submitted by Michael Todd [Peeples 2004b & 2004c; Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2004b (includes photo) & 2004c]. The record is accepted with a vote of 6-0. With this accepted photographic record, the status of California Gull on the Official Checklist is changed from Provisional to Accidental. This is also the first record of an adult-plumaged California Gull in Tennessee.

Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*)

Photographs and written documentation of one of several immature birds in Lake County from 13 February through 7 March 2005 were submitted by Michael Todd [Peeples 2005b & 2005c; Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2005b (includes photo) &

2005c]. The record is accepted with a vote of 6-0. This is the first accepted record for Thayer's Gull in Tennessee and the species is added to the Official Checklist with a status of Casual. There are several previous reports of Thayer's Gull which have not been submitted to the Committee for review. The Committee would like to request that documentation for these earlier reports be submitted for review.

Gull-billed Tern (*Gelochelidon nilotica*)

Written documentation of a single bird at Kingston Steam Plant in Roane County from 26-27 May 2006 was submitted by Terry Witt. The record is accepted with a vote of 6-0. This is the second accepted sight record of Gull-billed Tern in Tennessee and the species retains Provisional status on the Official Checklist. Documentation has been submitted for possible publication in *The Migrant*.

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*)

Photographs and written documentation of a single bird in Tipton County on 9-10 July 2005 were submitted by David Brown [Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2005d]. The record is accepted with a vote of 6-0. This is the first accepted record of White-winged Dove in Tennessee and the species is added to the Official Checklist with a status of Accidental. There are two previous reports of White-winged Dove in Tennessee which have been published but not submitted to the TBRC: a single bird 25-27 June 2000 at the Ducks Unlimited Headquarters in Shelby County by Jim Fulghum and Keith McKnight which was photographed by Jeff Wilson [Purrington 2000] and a single bird on 25 May 2001 in Clarksville, Montgomery County by Mike O'Malley [Casteel 2001; Myers and Wallace 2001]. A photograph of the Montgomery County bird was submitted to the TBRC photo website but without the written documentation needed for Committee action. The Committee would like to request that documentation for these earlier reports be submitted for review.

Inca Dove (*Columbina inca*)

Photographs and written documentation of a single bird visiting the feeders of Danny and Theresa Graham in Fayette County from 24 November through 7 December 2005 were submitted by Theresa Graham [Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2006b]. The record is accepted with a vote of 6-0. This is the first accepted record of Inca Dove in Tennessee, and the species is added to the Official Checklist with a status of Accidental. There are two previous reports of Inca Dove in Tennessee which have been published but not submitted to the TBRC for review: a single bird on 21-22 May 2005 at The EARTH Complex in Shelby County by Jeff Wilson [Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2005c (includes photo)] and a single bird on 28 August 2005 near Chickamauga Dam in Hamilton County by Don Manning [Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2006a]. The Committee would like to request that documentation for these earlier reports be submitted for review.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*)

Photographs and written documentation of breeding evidence in Maury

County on 29 June 2004 were submitted by Tommy Edwards [Casteel 2004; Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2004d]. The record is accepted with a vote of 6-0. Scissor-tailed Flycatcher is already on the Official Checklist.

Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*)

Photographs and written documentation of a single bird at Seven Islands Wildlife Refuge in Knox County on 20 November 2005 were submitted by Dan Mooney [Mooney 2006; Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2006a]. The record is accepted with a vote of 5-1. The dissenting voter was concerned by the apparent short tail length shown in the backlit photographs and the lack of discussion of tail length in the written documentation. Other voters attributed the apparent short tail length in the photos to the angle of the bird. This is the first accepted record of Townsend's Solitaire in Tennessee and the species is added to the Official Checklist with a status of Accidental.

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*)

Written documentation of a single bird in Weakley County on 2 April 2006 was submitted by Dr. David Pitts. The record is accepted with a vote of 6-0. This is the fourth report of Varied Thrush in Tennessee. Varied Thrush is already on the Official Checklist with a status of Accidental.

Henslow's Sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*)

Written documentation of breeding evidence in Maury County on 3 June 2006 was submitted by Tommy Edwards. The record is accepted with a vote of 6-0. Henslow's Sparrow is already on the Official Checklist with a status of Regular Breeder.

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*)

Photographs and written documentation of a single bird visiting the feeders of John and Sharon Walko in Shelby County from 8 January through 26 February 2006 were submitted by John Walko [Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2006b]. The record is accepted with a vote of 6-0. Harris's Sparrow is already on the Official Checklist with a status of Casual.

Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*)

Photographs (by Keith Kunkel and Michael Todd) and written documentation (by Keith and Peggy Kunkel) were submitted for a single adult bird visiting the Kunkel's feeders in Tipton County from 4 December 2005 through 17 January 2006 [Sloan and Palmer-Ball 2006b]. The record is accepted with a vote of 6-0. This is the first accepted record of Golden-crowned Sparrow in Tennessee, and the species is added to the Official Checklist with a status of Accidental.

Rejected Reports — None.

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The Migrant 77 (1): 8-14, 2006

2005 TENNESSEE TRADITIONAL FALL BIRD COUNTS

Compiled by RON HOFF
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This summary reports on the Fall bird counts that are held on a date other than the third Saturday in September. That Saturday is the Fall North American Migration Count, which is reported separately. This year 154 species and nearly 31,000 individuals were found on five Fall counts (Table 1). Typical for Fall counts, early winter arrivals and late-lingering migrational breeders added notably to the species totals. The weather was generally mild to warm with temperatures of 52-89° F. Highlights included Peregrine Falcon on four of the five counts, Black-necked Stilt, Sora, Franklin's and Laughing Gulls, Northern Saw-whet Owl, and Olive-sided Flycatcher.

COUNTY SUMMARIES

Elizabethton — 24 September; 0515-2130. Weather: partly to mostly cloudy with light and variable winds; 55-89° F. The count area includes Carter County and parts of adjacent Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington Counties. The average number of species for the last 10 years is 121, and the all-time high count was 137 in 1993. Highlights included Gadwall, 10 species of raptors, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Great Crested Flycatcher, Philadelphia Vireo, 22 species of warblers, and a Bobolink. Observers: Rob Biller, Lynn Brandon, Carolyn Coffey, Wallace Coffey, Tess Cumbie, Gilbert Derouen, Diane Draper, Glen Eller, Harry Farthing, Josh Ferry, Cathy Flick, Michael Glass, Kathy Gunther, Don Holt, Mark Hopey, Reece Jamerson, Rick Knight (compiler: 804 N. Hills Dr., Johnson City, TN 37604; rknight8@earthlink.net), Lillie and Rad Mayfield, Joe McGuiness, Tom McNeil, Chris O'Bryan, Charlie and Ellen Parker, Brookie and Jean Potter, Bryan and Peggy Stevens, Kim Stroud, David Thometz, Gary Wallace, and Frank Ward.

Knoxville — 25 September; 0645-1930. Weather: partly sunny with no rain; remnants of hurricane Rita passed through the next day; winds were SE 0-20 mph and gusty; 67-88° F. The 105 species found on this count were slightly above the average for recent years. Nineteen warbler species were about average, but the number of individual warblers was quite low. Highlights included Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Sora, Olive-sided and Willow Flycatchers, Tree and Barn Swallows, an early Golden-crowned Kinglet, Bobolink, and Baltimore Oriole. Brown-headed Nuthatches continue at two sites in Knox Co. Blue Grosbeak and Indigo Bunting numbers were quite high in large part due to excellent habitat at Forks-of-the-River WMA and Seven Islands Park. Observers: Jean Alexander, Lyn Bales, Howard Chitwood, Meredith Clebsch, Gail and Steve Clendenen, K. Dean Edwards (compiler: 1615 Meadow Chase Ln., Knoxville, TN 37931; kde@angst.engr.utk.edu), Carole Gobert, Paul Hartigan, Kim Henry, Susan Hoyle,

Table 1. Results of Tennessee Fall counts

Species	Elizabethton	Knoxville	Nashville	Pickett Co.	White Co.	Totals
Canada Goose	680	308	190	-	88	1266
Wood Duck	39	22	28	-	15	104
Gadwall	1	-	-	-	-	1
Mallard	296	84	54	-	20	454
Blue-winged Teal	30	10	-	-	11	51
Ruffed Grouse	3	-	-	-	-	3
Wild Turkey	4	2	30	8	18	62
Northern Bobwhite	-	1	25	-	1	27
Pied-billed Grebe	5	1	32	-	2	40
Eared Grebe	3	-	-	-	-	3
Double-crested Cormorant	1	25	245	-	-	271
Great Blue Heron	35	26	70	2	18	151
Great Egret	3	-	17	-	-	20
Green Heron	2	12	1	-	-	15
Black-crowned Night-Heron	3	3	9	-	-	15
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	3	-	-	-		3
Black Vulture	14	24	570	-	45	653
Turkey Vulture	81	20	267	16	79	463
Osprey	7	6	5	-	-	18
Bald Eagle	1	1	2	2	-	6
Northern Harrier	1	3	3	-	2	9
Sharp-shinned Hawk	19	1	6	1	2	29
Cooper's Hawk	11	5	12	-	-	28
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	9	12	1	6	28
Broad-winged Hawk	134	2	-	-	1	137
Red-tailed Hawk	15	10	33	-	17	75
American Kestrel	10	4	40	8	46	108
Merlin	2	-	-	-	-	2
Peregrine Falcon	4	1	1	-	1	7
Sora	-	1	-	-	-	1
Black-necked Stilt	-	-	1	-	-	1
Killdeer	66	76	48	10	51	251
Solitary Sandpiper	1	-	-	-	-	1
Spotted Sandpiper	6	-	-	-	-	6
Pectoral Sandpiper	-	5	-	-	-	5

Species	Elizabethton	Knoxville	Nashville	Pickett Co.	White Co.	Totals
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	1	-	2	3
Laughing Gull	-	-	6	-	-	6
Franklin's Gull	-	-	1	-	-	1
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	15	-	-	15
Common Tern	-	-	1	-	-	1
Rock Pigeon	136	418	181	6	222	963
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-	-	1	1	4	6
Mourning Dove	180	374	330	129	279	1292
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	3	1	-	-	5
Eastern Screech Owl	13	2	9	1	17	42
Great Horned Owl	5	-	10	1	1	17
Barred Owl	2	-	3	2	3	10
Northern Saw-whet Owl	1	-	-	-	-	1
Common Nighthawk	-	-	-	-	1	1
Whip-poor-will	-	-	-	2	-	2
Chimney Swift	558	510	213	30	72	1383
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	25	27	1	13	3	69
Belted Kingfisher	30	23	19	2	7	81
Red-headed Woodpecker	3	1	4	-	4	12
Red-bellied Woodpecker	21	78	77	14	43	233
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	24	-	-	24
Downy Woodpecker	30	55	92	24	38	239
Hairy Woodpecker	13	10	15	7	10	55
Northern Flicker	10	35	53	3	38	139
Pileated Woodpecker	10	18	17	13	19	77
Olive-sided Flycatcher	-	1	-	-	-	1
Eastern Wood-Pewee	13	10	73	12	23	131
Willow Flycatcher	-	1	-	-	-	1
Empidonax sp.	-	1	-	-	-	1
Eastern Phoebe	30	38	55	12	50	185
Great Crested Flycatcher	1	-	-	-	-	1
Loggerhead Shrike	1	-	-	-	2	3
White-eyed Vireo	3	23	9	6	7	48
Yellow-throated Vireo	4	-	1	4	4	13
Blue-headed Vireo	23	-	2	6	8	39

Species	Elizabethton	Knoxville	Nashville	Pickett Co.	White Co.	Totals
Philadelphia Vireo	2	-	-	1	1	4
Red-eyed Vireo	9	6	2	3	3	23
Blue Jay	212	450	340	36	202	1240
American Crow	236	292	731	59	215	1533
Common Raven	12	-	-	-	-	12
Tree Swallow	26	9	140	-	4	179
N. Rough-winged Swallow	-	-	28	-	1	29
Barn Swallow	3	1	1	-	12	17
Carolina Chickadee	156	186	457	53	149	1001
Tufted Titmouse	76	95	206	42	117	536
Red-breasted Nuthatch	-	-	1	-	-	1
White-breasted Nuthatch	32	26	46	37	41	182
Brown-headed Nuthatch	-	4	-	-	-	4
Brown Creeper	-	-	3	-	-	3
Carolina Wren	118	204	287	38	166	813
House Wren	2	6	8	-	6	22
Winter Wren	-	-	4	-	-	4
Sedge Wren	-	-	2	-	-	2
Marsh Wren	-	1	8	-	6	15
Golden-crowned Kinglet	3	1	36	-	-	40
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	3	1	23	1	8	36
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	1	-	-	-	-	1
Eastern Bluebird	107	150	215	17	291	780
Veery	1	-	-	-	1	2
Gray-cheeked Thrush	-	-	1	6	6	13
Swainson's Thrush	16	2	2	41	5	66
Wood Thrush	3	10	1	2	7	23
American Robin	523	198	491	27	43	1282
Gray Catbird	35	71	75	1	12	194
Northern Mockingbird	71	147	90	7	66	381
Brown Thrasher	14	69	39	6	12	140
European Starling	930	1146	1204	61	1683	5024
Cedar Waxwing	204	64	190	2	5	465
Blue-winged Warbler	1	-	1	-	-	2
Golden-winged Warbler	-	-	-	2	-	2

Species	Elizabethton	Knoxville	Nashville	Pickett Co.	White Co.	Totals
Tennessee Warbler	85	2	57	11	41	196
Orange-crowned Warbler	-	1	2	-	-	3
Nashville Warbler	2	1	1	-	-	4
Northern Parula	5	-	3	-	1	9
Yellow Warbler	-	1	-	-	1	2
Chestnut-sided Warbler	17	7	4	8	6	42
Magnolia Warbler	33	48	72	20	57	230
Cape May Warbler	6	-	-	1	-	7
Black-throated Blue Warbler	17	-	-	-	-	17
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	4	145	-	2	151
Black-throated Green Warbler	11	2	44	16	14	87
Blackburnian Warbler	5	-	4	-	-	9
Yellow-throated Warbler	2	1	1	3	3	10
Pine Warbler	4	5	6	19	10	44
Prairie Warbler	-	-	1	-	1	2
Palm Warbler	55	12	72	1	8	148
Bay-breasted Warbler	22	1	1	8	4	36
Blackpoll Warbler	1	-	-	-	-	1
Black-and-white Warbler	3	2	5	10	14	34
American Redstart	28	13	23	8	13	85
Ovenbird	2	1	4	3	1	11
Northern Waterthrush	-	-	1	-	1	2
Kentucky Warbler	1	-	-	-	-	1
Common Yellowthroat	9	34	67	1	20	131
Hooded Warbler	8	3	-	20	4	35
Yellow-breasted Chat	1	2	-	-	-	3
Summer Tanager	1	4	10	10	11	36
Scarlet Tanager	11	9	7	6	4	37
Eastern Towhee	26	49	59	5	16	155
Chipping Sparrow	17	9	32	6	87	151
Field Sparrow	7	71	53	1	27	159
Savannah Sparrow	1	3	3	-	4	11
Grasshopper Sparrow	-	-	-	-	1	1
Song Sparrow	81	77	15	-	27	200
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	121	-	2	123

Species	Elizabethton	Knoxville	Nashville	Pickett Co.	White Co.	Totals
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	15	-	-	15
Dark-eyed Junco	66	-	-	-	-	66
Northern Cardinal	127	290	340	22	228	1007
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	70	19	67	3	6	165
Blue Grosbeak	-	22	-	4	6	32
Indigo Bunting	88	432	103	3	13	639
Bobolink	1	1	-	-	-	2
Red-winged Blackbird	344	105	148	2	-	599
Eastern Meadowlark	15	34	40	3	92	184
Common Grackle	433	207	958	-	3	1601
Brown-headed Cowbird	26	166	3	15	5	215
Baltimore Oriole	-	1	-	-	-	1
House Finch	36	78	55	4	7	180
American Goldfinch	131	137	129	11	28	436
House Sparrow	75	25	4	30	45	179
Total individuals	7262	7308	10222	1032	5155	30979
Total species	119	105	118	77	103	154
Effort data:						
Observers	32	23	28	5	5	93
Parties	8	13	9	3	3	36
Party hours	72	73.5	63.25	22	33	263.75
Hours by car	-	16	27	15.5	29	87.5
Miles by car	-	304.5	369	159	329	1161.5
Hours by foot	-	53	36.25	6.5	4	99.75
Miles by foot	-	32.25	27.25	10.25	3	72.75
Hours by other (boat)	-	4.5	-	-	-	4.5
Miles by other (boat)	-	7	-	-	-	7
Hours owling	5	0.25	1.5	1.5	2.25	10.5
Miles owling	-	0	12	14	21	47
Feeder observers	-	1	-	2	-	3
Feeder hours	-	7.5	-	8	-	15.5
Count date	9/24/2005	9/25/2005	10/8/2005	9/24/2005	10/1/2005	

Jim Human, Wes James, Kristine Johnson, Tony King, Ed Manous, Dan and Laurie Mooney, Charlie Muise, Charles P. Nicholson, Truett Patterson, Boyd Sharp, and David Trently.

Nashville — 8 October; 0530-1830. Weather: mostly cloudy with NNE winds at 10-15 mph; 52-61° F. The Owls Hill area was not covered this year. Species of interest included Peregrine Falcon, Black-necked Stilt (3rd record for middle TN), Franklin's Gull, Laughing Gull, Common Tern, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and five species of wrens. Observers: Sandy Bivens, Kevin Bowden, Ed Byrne, Gary Casey, Phillip Casteel, Richard Conners, Jerry Drewry, Francis Fekel, Heather Gallager, Mark Hackney, Barbara Harris, Susan Hollyday, Barry Jernigan, Linda Kelly, Robert Lane, Judy Luna, Jon Mann, Diana McLusky, Elizabeth O'Conner, Denni Platt, Sarah Scott, Jan Shaw (compiler: 5019 Timberhill Dr., Nashville, TN 37211; jankshaw@aol.com), Kathy Shaw, Chris Sloan, Vernon Smith, Joe Stone, Sabin Thompson, Terry Witt, and Mary Zimmerman.

Pickett County — 24 September; 0518-1730. Weather: clear with winds 0-2.5 mph in the morning, turning 2.5-15 mph in the afternoon; 65-83° F. This was the first ever Fall bird count in Pickett County. Highlights included Bald Eagle, Eurasian Collared-Dove, and Philadelphia Vireo. Observers: Robbie C. Hassler, Margo Hinkle, Stephen J. Stedman (compiler: 2675 Lakeland Dr., Cookeville, TN 38506; sstedman@tntech.edu), Catherine E. and Winston A. Walden, and Faye Wells.

White County — 1 October; 0410-1830. Weather: mostly clear with 0-15 mph winds in the morning, slowing down to 0-5 winds in the afternoon; 60-84° F. This was the second consecutive Fall bird count for White Co. Some public sites that were included in the coverage were the Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness and Rock Island State Park. Species of interest included Peregrine Falcon, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Philadelphia Vireo, Marsh Wren, Veery, and Grasshopper Sparrow. Observers: Observers: Douglas A. Downs (compiler: 403 Gillen Dr., Sparta, TN 38583; douglas_downs@hotmail.com), Michael P. O'Rourke, Tom Saya, and Barbara H. and Stephen J. Stedman.

The Migrant 77 (1): 15-21, 2006

2005 TENNESSEE FALL NORTH AMERICAN MIGRATION COUNTS

Compiled by Ron Hoff
282 Hackworth Ln.
Clinton, TN 37716

This report summarizes the 6th consecutive Tennessee Fall North American Migration Count, which is always held on the 3rd Saturday in September as part of the International Migratory Bird Day, an event designed to draw attention to migrating birds. Nine counties were censused again this year. The 63 observers logged almost 155 party hours in finding 20,870 individual birds that represented 148 species (Table 1). This was the lowest species total in count history. The weather was generally mild but early fog hampered many counts. Several compilers remarked about scarcity of species on their counts. Temperatures ranged from 65-90° F. Ring-necked Duck, Hooded Merganser, Anhinga, Willet, and Black Tern were all new species for the count, bringing the all-time total species for the count to 212. Other unusual species found on the count included Mississippi Kite, Sanderling, Black-billed Cuckoo, Willow and Least Flycatchers, Cerulean Warbler, and Orchard Oriole. Species appearing in record high numbers were: Mallard, Green Heron, Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, Cooper's Hawk, Caspian Tern, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Mourning Dove, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Acadian Flycatcher, White-eyed Vireo, Fish Crow, Carolina Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Northern Waterthrush, Summer Tanager, Field Sparrow, and Brown-headed Cowbird. Species appearing in all-time low numbers were: Broad-winged Hawk, Spotted Sandpiper, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Yellow-throated, Blue-headed, and Philadelphia Vireos, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Gray Catbird, Tennessee Warbler, Northern Parula, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Pine Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Eastern Meadowlark. Owling effort was at its highest ever.

COUNTY SUMMARIES

Anderson County — 0600-1330. Weather: heavy fog early, turning mostly clear with wind 0-5 mph; 65-84° F. Fog hampered efforts early in the morning and generally birds were pretty scarce by the time it cleared up. Highlights included a Black-crowned Night-Heron, Cooper's Hawk, and a Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Observers: Ron Hoff (compiler: 282 Hackworth Ln., Clinton, TN 37716;), and Dollyann Myers.

Blount County — 0430-2000. Weather: partly cloudy to mostly sunny; 68-85° F. Areas covered included Alcoa, Alcoa Marsh, Alcoa/Maryville greenway, Cades

Table 1. Results of Tennessee Fall North American Migration Counts conducted 17 September 2005

Species	Anderson	Blount	Jefferson	Loudon	Putnam	Roane	Sevier	Shelby	Wilson	Totals
Canada Goose	34	111	14	-	241	200	75	299	7	981
Wood Duck	-	41	-	-	140	-	-	60	6	247
Mallard	22	48	8	-	8	75	5	358	3	527
Blue-winged Teal	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	39	-	54
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Wild Turkey	-	2	17	-	-	-	-	14	29	62
Northern Bobwhite	-	5	-	-	-	12	-	2	-	19
Pied-billed Grebe	-	3	-	-	12	1	-	2	-	18
Dbl-crest.Cormorant	-	4	-	24	1	-	-	43	34	106
Anhinga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Great Blue Heron	2	5	8	17	18	15	4	28	16	113
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	16	52
Little Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Green Heron	-	5	1	2	9	1	1	3	-	22
Blk-crown. Night-Heron	1	-	-	11	1	22	-	-	2	37
Ylw-crown. Night-Heron	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Black Vulture	37	8	-	32	12	-	-	5	44	138
Turkey Vulture	35	31	1	-	87	15	2	9	36	216
Osprey	-	4	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	9
Mississippi Kite	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Bald Eagle	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cooper's Hawk	1	3	3	1	3	1	2	3	-	17
Red-shouldered Hawk	2	2	-	-	7	1	-	14	-	26
Broad-winged Hawk	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Red-tailed Hawk	3	9	-	-	15	1	2	4	8	42
American Kestrel	1	5	-	-	27	-	1	3	3	40
Merlin	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Killdeer	23	31	15	-	106	18	8	112	5	318
Lesser Yellowlegs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	12
Willet	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Spotted Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	3
Sanderling	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Semipalm. Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	7
Least Sandpiper	1	2	-	-	-	6	-	1156	-	1165

Species	Anderson	Blount	Jefferson	Loudon	Putnam	Roane	Sevier	Shelby	Wilson	Totals
Pectoral Sandpiper	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	28	-	30
Caspian Tern	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	4
Black Tern	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Rock Pigeon	2	238	60	20	172	18	105	45	102	762
Eurasian Collared-Dove	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	70	3	75
Mourning Dove	65	148	15	14	589	15	215	233	75	1369
Black-billed Cuckoo	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	11
Eastern Screech Owl	2	3	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	18
Great Horned Owl	2	9	1	-	4	-	-	2	-	18
Barred Owl	4	1	-	-	7	-	-	2	-	14
Common Nighthawk	-	49	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	52
Chimney Swift	24	205	-	63	55	-	4	55	15	421
Ruby-th.Hummingbird	4	95	3	3	34	2	6	245	13	405
Belted Kingfisher	3	6	3	2	18	1	1	8	4	46
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	27	2	36
Red-bellied Woodpecker	13	7	4	-	23	-	-	88	2	137
Downy Woodpecker	6	17	2	-	27	-	3	36	13	104
Hairy Woodpecker	2	2	-	-	11	-	-	6	1	22
Northern Flicker	2	8	1	-	20	-	-	16	-	47
Pileated Woodpecker	4	7	-	-	13	1	-	16	1	42
Olive-sided Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Eastern Wood-Pewee	2	9	-	-	22	-	-	22	2	57
Acadian Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	42	-	46
Willow Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Least Flycatcher	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Empidonax sp.	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	4
Eastern Phoebe	14	13	-	-	53	1	1	6	7	95
Gr. Crested Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Eastern Kingbird	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	7
Loggerhead Shrike	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
White-eyed Vireo	3	15	-	-	60	-	1	148	2	229
Yellow-throated Vireo	1	-	-	-	10	-	-	4	-	15
Blue-headed Vireo	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	4
Philadelphia Vireo	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Red-eyed Vireo	1	6	-	-	5	-	-	12	-	24
Blue Jay	47	108	18	5	227	7	14	49	85	560
American Crow	44	118	17	25	304	7	8	37	92	652

Species	Anderson	Blount	Jefferson	Loudon	Putnam	Roane	Sevier	Shelby	Wilson	Totals
Fish Crow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	20
Common Raven	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Horned Lark	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	14	-	15
Tree Swallow	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	30	30	64
N.Rough-wing Swallow	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	34	84	119
Barn Swallow	6	-	-	-	3	-	65	3	12	89
Carolina Chickadee	30	65	3	-	133	6	3	117	46	403
Tufted Titmouse	29	45	5	-	132	-	1	129	37	378
Red-breasted Nuthatch	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
White-breasted Nuthatch	7	12	-	-	48	-	1	59	3	130
Brown-headed Nuthatch	-	1	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	6
Carolina Wren	56	71	5	2	170	5	10	179	17	515
House Wren	-	4	-	-	6	-	2	-	1	13
Winter Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	4
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	-	11	-	-	4	-	-	10	-	25
Eastern Bluebird	31	41	2	7	242	3	-	23	55	404
Gray-cheeked Thrush	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Swainson's Thrush	-	15	-	-	9	-	1	3	-	28
Wood Thrush	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	4	-	8
American Robin	1	49	21	-	112	13	-	43	26	265
Gray Catbird	-	10	2	-	23	-	2	2	2	41
Northern Mockingbird	11	18	1	7	41	3	9	28	18	136
Brown Thrasher	2	10	-	-	21	-	-	2	3	38
European Starling	656	512	125	95	2529	2	285	170	597	4971
Cedar Waxwing	-	10	-	-	42	-	-	-	14	66
Blue-winged Warbler	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	2	-	6
Golden-winged Warbler	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
Tennessee Warbler	-	2	-	-	17	-	-	4	-	23
Nashville Warbler	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	7	-	8
Northern Parula	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	27	-	30
Yellow Warbler	-	2	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	7
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1	1	-	-	14	-	-	1	-	17
Magnolia Warbler	2	15	-	-	50	-	-	2	-	69
Cape May Warbler	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Blk-throat. Green Warbler	-	3	-	-	10	1	-	2	-	16

Species	Anderson	Blount	Jefferson	Loudon	Putnam	Roane	Sevier	Shelby	Wilson	Totals
Blackburnian Warbler	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Yellow-throated Warbler	-	-	-	-	6	1	-	1	-	8
Pine Warbler	-	2	-	-	7	-	-	1	1	11
Prairie Warbler	-	1	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	7
Palm Warbler	1	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	6
Bay-breasted Warbler	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	2	-	6
Cerulean Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Black-and-white Warbler	1	-	-	-	15	-	-	3	1	20
American Redstart	4	7	-	-	15	-	-	4	3	33
Prothonotary Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Worm-eating Warbler	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
Ovenbird	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Northern Waterthrush	-	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	5
Waterthrush sp.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Kentucky Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Common Yellowthroat	-	9	-	-	27	2	2	1	-	41
Hooded Warbler	1	-	-	-	6	-	-	3	-	10
Wilson's Warbler	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Warbler sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Summer Tanager	1	-	-	-	16	-	-	59	1	77
Scarlet Tanager	4	1	-	-	17	-	-	2	-	24
Eastern Towhee	-	11	-	-	42	-	1	6	9	69
Chipping Sparrow	5	27	-	-	41	-	5	-	8	86
Field Sparrow	4	39	-	-	60	-	-	5	4	112
Savannah Sparrow	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Grasshopper Sparrow	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Song Sparrow	10	21	2	8	61	3	14	-	-	119
Dark-eyed Junco	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	4
Northern Cardinal	62	76	11	2	239	6	8	70	52	526
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	7	-	11
Blue Grosbeak	-	1	-	-	8	-	1	3	-	13
Indigo Bunting	1	12	-	-	47	-	5	52	5	122
Red-winged Blackbird	-	15	-	-	17	75	1	75	7	190
Eastern Meadowlark	-	7	-	-	4	-	-	9	-	20
Common Grackle	-	2	-	-	3	-	60	259	19	343
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	700	-	-	95	-	120	7	1	923
Orchard Oriole	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Baltimore Oriole	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1

Species	Anderson	Blount	Jefferson	Loudon	Putnam	Roane	Sevier	Shelby	Wilson	Totals
House Finch	-	34	2	-	23	4	5	13	22	103
American Goldfinch	1	66	7	2	123	20	26	22	51	318
House Sparrow	-	29	-	-	108	-	1	5	6	149
Total individuals	1341	3393	379	343	7001	577	1099	4970	1767	20870
Total species	60	98	31	21	105	43	48	110	62	148
Effort data:										
Observers	2	16	1	2	10	1	2	20	9	63
Parties	1	12	1	1	5	1	1	7	6	35
Party hours	6.5	35	5.75	3	47.5	4	8.5	33.5	11	154.75
Hours by car	6	7.92	1.75	0.5	36.25	1	5.5	9.5	4	72.42
Miles by car	81	170	16.5	6	413	70	110	43	91	1000.5
Hours by foot	0.5	27.08	4	2.5	11.25	3	3	24	7	82.33
Miles by foot	0.5	14.3	2	1	7	2.5	2.5	17.5	3	50.3
Hours by boat, or other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miles by boat or other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hours owling	1	1.25	0.25	-	3.5	-	-	-	0.25	6.25
Miles owling	11	27.5	0	-	28	-	-	-	0	66.5
Feeder observers	1	6	-	-	2	-	-	-	6	15
Feeder hours	2	7.84	-	-	5	-	-	-	7.5	22.34

Cove, Chilhowee Dam, Eastern Blount Co., Foothills Parkway, Friendsville, Kyker Bottoms, Louisville, Louisville Point Park, Maryville, Maryville College Woods, Phelp's Dairy Farm, Rockford, Sevierville Road, and Townsend. Highlights included Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, Black-billed Cuckoo, Least Flycatcher, Loggerhead Shrike, and Red-breasted and Brown-headed Nuthatches. Observers: Richard Aldridge, Jean J. Alexander (compiler: 3908 Riverview Dr., Maryville, TN 37804; jjadmj@infionline.net), Warren Bielenberg, Kathy Bivens, Mary Laura French, Paul D. Hartigan, Kim J. Henry, Stephen P. Henry, Thomas D. Howe, James R. Human, David M. Johnson, Jon A. Koella, Ben Mooney, Bill Smith, and June D. Welch.

Jefferson County — 0830-1415. Weather: fog, then cloudy, then mostly sunny; 69-81° F. Count coverage was in the northwest section of the county, including Mossy Creek Wildlife Viewing Area, Cherokee Dam area, and the participant's home subdivision. Observer: Howard Chitwood, 1432 Royal Dr., Jefferson City, TN 37760; hchitwood@msn.com.

Loudon County — 1715-2015. Weather: hot and hazy; 79-84° F. Participants reported that birds were scarce. Despite this they managed to find an adult Bald Eagle and a Cooper's Hawk. Observers: Tony King (compiler: P.O. Box 1232, Lenoir City, TN 37771) and Denise Nauman.

Putnam County — 0415-1815. Weather: heavy fog and misting in the morning, turning partly cloudy with winds 0-7.5 mph; 68-80° F. Hooded Merganser, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Worm-eating Warbler, and Grasshopper Sparrow were all recorded for the first time on this count. Wood Duck and Belted Kingfisher totals represented all-time high totals for Putnam County. Brown-headed Nuthatches were found on the Cookeville Golf Course for the 4th consecutive year. Observers: Douglas A. Downs, Bettie Doyle, Judy C. Fuson, Michael J. Hawkins, Jane Ellen B. Herrin, Michael P. O'Rourke, Tom Saya, Richard W. Simmers, Jr., Barbara H. and Stephen J. Stedman (compiler: 2675 Lakeland Dr., Cookeville, TN 38506; sstedman@tntech.edu), Winston A. Walden, and Carol D. Williams.

Roane County — 0730-1130. Weather: light fog early, then turning sunny with scattered clouds; 67-83° F. This count was conducted mostly at Kingston Steam Plant in Roane Co. Highlights included Willet, Sanderling, and Caspian Tern. Observer: Ed Manous (compiler: 1221 Dukesbury Dr., Knoxville, TN 37919).

Sevier County — 0800-1730. Weather: foggy in the morning, turning partly cloudy with light and variable winds; 66-84° F. Species were scarce, but the participants had some flocks of cowbirds and Barn Swallows. Observers: Susan Hoyle (compiler: P.O. Box 8421, Knoxville, TN 37996) and Martha Rudolph.

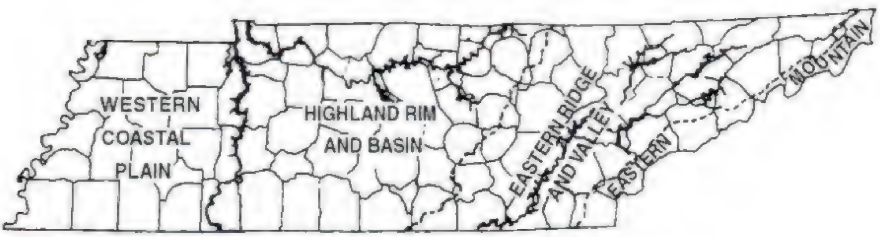
Shelby County — No times given. Weather: warm and overcast in the morning, turning hot and partly cloudy in the afternoon with a light breeze; 70-90° F. Unusual species found included Anhinga, Caspian and Black Terns, an amazing 245 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, Olive-sided Flycatcher and Golden-winged Warbler. Observers: Jim Armacost, Cristina Baker, David Blaylock, David Browne, Carolyn Bullock, Jennifer Couch, Lilliand Duran, Van Harris, Margaret Jefferson, Gail King, Kay Lait, Dick Preston (compiler: 261 Sassafras Circle, Munford, TN 38058-6857), Barbara and Forest Priddy, Virginia Reynolds, Ed Thomas, Darrell Van Vickle, Martha Waldron, Barbara Wilson, and Linda Zempel.

Wilson County — 0600-1700. Weather: started clear, got cloudy, then turned clear again with slight winds; 75-90° F. Participants were unable to count at Boxwell Scout Camp, so waterfowl numbers were low. The number of individuals was similar to the 2004 count. Highlights included Great Egret, Eurasian Collared-Dove, House Wren, and Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Observers: V. C. Berry, Kay and Ralph Brinkhurst (compiler: 3570 Cainsville Rd., Lebanon, TN 37090; oligo1@aol.com), Frank S. Crawford, Jan Donaldson, Grace Speck, Earl Stoeffel, Melissa and Roy Turrentine, Dean and Jerry Walker, and Paul Wells.

The Migrant 77 (1): 22-35, 2006

THE FALL SEASON

RICHARD L. KNIGHT, Editor



1 AUGUST - 30 NOVEMBER 2005

Autumn this year was quite mild, with warmer than average temperatures persisting through October and most of November. Aside from some tropical rain in late August, the season was rather dry. Following *Dennis* in July, this most-active of hurricane seasons sent another storm our way in August. After causing devastation in the lower coastal plain of southeastern Louisiana and Mississippi, the remnants of Hurricane *Katrina* moved north into West and Middle Tennessee on 30 August. The main impact of this storm here was moderately heavy rains.The vestiges of another hurricane (*Rita*) passed well to the west of Tennessee on 25 September, with little influence here.

The avian fallout from *Katrina* was record setting. Like for *Dennis*, the place to be was Pickwick Lake. Highlights there were Band-rumped Storm-Petrel, Magnificent Frigatebird, Long-tailed Jaeger, South Polar Skua, Royal Tern, Sooty Tern, and Black Skimmer! Elsewhere, an incredible Greater Shearwater was picked up at Murfreesboro, with another Sooty Tern seen near Nashville. Bridled and Sooty Terns, plus another Black Skimmer, were spotted near Chattanooga. In addition, Laughing Gulls, other terns, and various shorebirds were part of the fallout. The skua and shearwater are particularly noteworthy inland; both are rare even in the Gulf of Mexico (where there is only one record of South Polar Skua).

Besides the hurricane waifs, a bevy of other rarities were found this fall. Inca Dove, Townsend's Solitaire, and Black-throated Sparrow provided first state records, as did the shearwater and skua above. Also notable were Mottled Duck, Yellow-billed Loon, Roseate Spoonbill, Little Gull, and Say's Phoebe in West Tennessee, as well as Brown Pelican (lingering from July), Clapper Rail, and Broad-tailed Hummingbird in East Tennessee.

Although rarities often steal the headlines, other trends and activities this fall are worth mentioning. The mild conditions resulted in low numbers of

waterfowl and loons moving through by the period's end. Likewise, few boreal irruptives appeared, but for different reasons. The state's only consistently active hawkwatch continued this fall. Three banding stations in the high mountains remained in operation, also. Many more details of an exciting autumn season follow in the regional reports.

Standard Abbreviations

ad - adult
Co - County
Cr - Creek
ers - earliest reported sighting
et al. - and others
fide - reported by
im - immature
Is - Island
L - Lake
lrs - latest reported sighting
max - maximum count
m.ob. - many observers
Mtn - Mountain
NWR - National Wildlife Refuge
Pt - Point
R - River
SP - State Park
WMA - Wildlife Management Area

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION — Despite the barrage of summer storms from the south, conditions remained dry since summer, and record low rainfall totals were set for the region this fall. Temperatures were above normal, compounding the near-drought situation. Many rare species were reported this fall, some needing verification by the Tennessee Bird Records Committee.

[*Editor's note*: Due to health problems, regional compiler Rob Peeples was unable to do this season's report. Martha Waldron was able to step up and gather as much data as she could, with assistance from Dick Preston. We appreciate their efforts and wish Rob a speedy recovery.]

Duck - Spoonbill: **MOTTLED DUCK**: 24 -29 Sep (2) Eagle Cr., near Paris Landing (MCT et al.). **Greater Scaup**: 20 Nov (1) EARTH Complex (VBR); 29 Nov (4) Reelfoot L. (MAG). **Surf Scoter**: 16 Oct (2) Mississippi R., Shelby Co (JRW); 6/13 Nov (1) Pace Pt. area (MCT/TJW, JRW). **Black Scoter**: 16 Oct (1) Miss. R., Shelby Co (JRW); 25 Nov (1) Reelfoot L. (JRW, MCT, DMa). **Red-throated Loon**: 19-29 Nov (1) Pace Pt. area (MCT, JRW). **Pacific Loon**: 6-29 Nov (1) Pace Pt. area (MCT, JRW). **Common Loon**: 10 Nov (400+) Pace Pt. area (MCT). **YELLOW-BILLED LOON**: 27/29 Nov (1) Pace Pt. area (JRW). **Red-necked Grebe**: 12-13 Nov (1) Britton Ford (JRW, TJW); 20-25 Nov (1) Reelfoot L. (JRW, MCT). **BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL**: 30-31 Aug (1) Pickwick L. (JRW et al.). **American White Pelican**: 24 Sep (200) Upper Blue Basin, Reelfoot L. (NaM); 7 Oct (4892)/23 Oct (3263) Miss. R., Shelby Co (JRW); 5 Nov (1000) Keystone, Reelfoot L. (NaM). **Double-crested Cormorant**: 17 Aug (70) Mud Is., Shelby Co (CHB, Barbara Wilson, LVZ). **Anhinga**: 17 Sep (1) Shelby Forest (Van Harris). **MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD**: 30 Aug (1) Pickwick L. (JRW). **American Bittern**: 21 Oct (1) Shelby Farms (Anne

Hooper). **Great Egret**: 21 Aug (900) Everett L. (JRW), max. **Snowy Egret**: 21 Aug (600) Everett L. (JRW), max. **Little Blue Heron**: 23 Oct (1) Benton Co (MCT), lrs. **Tricolored Heron**: 21 Aug (1 ad, 1 im) Everett L. (JRW). **ROSEATE SPOONBILL**: 2 Aug (2) Hwy 157, near Fishgap Hill, Lake Co (Christine Donald, NaM).

Osprey - Rail: **Osprey**: 21 Aug (1) Eagle Lake WMA (CHB, LVZ). **Bald Eagle**: 24 Oct (pair) Hatchie NWR (Pat Keiran); 30 Oct (4 ad, 1 im) Miss. R., Shelby Co (JRW); 27 Nov (19 ad, 14 im) Britton Ford area (JRW); 28 Nov (2 ad, 1 im) Eagle Lake WMA (JRW). **Mississippi Kite**: 21/25 Aug (84/40) Eagle Lake WMA (CHB, VBR, LVZ). **"Krider's" Red-tailed Hawk**: 20 Nov (1) EARTH Complex (VBR). **Golden Eagle**: 22 Oct (1) EARTH Complex (JRW); 10 Nov (1 im) Britton Ford (MCT, DMa). **Merlin**: 2 Sep (1) Tiptonville, Lake Co (NaM); 30 Oct (1) Miss. R., Shelby Co (JRW); 4 Nov (1) Shelby Farms (VBR). **Peregrine Falcon**: 21-29 Sep (1) east Memphis (Michael Terry, MGW); 21 Sep (1) Big Sandy Unit (MCT); 15-29 Oct/11 Nov (1) Shelby Farms (Van Harris, MGW); 17/22 Oct (2) EARTH Complex (JRW); 14/28 Nov (1) Dacus Bar (JRW). **Virginia Rail**: 14 Sep (1) Reelfoot L. (NaM).

Shorebirds: **Black-bellied Plover**: 30 Aug (1) Hardin Co (MCT); 24 Sep (1) Big Sandy Unit (MCT). **American Golden-Plover**: 26 Sep, 2/8/23 Oct, 16 Nov (1-2) Britton Ford (MCT). **Piping Plover**: 21 Aug (1) Plum Pt., Lauderdale Co (JRW). **Black-necked Stilt**: 30 Aug (1) Pickwick L. (JRW et al.). **American Avocet**: 13 Aug (1) Dacus Bar (JRW); 30 Aug (5) Pickwick L. (Joe Guinn, JRW); 30 Aug (3) Hardin Co (MCT); 16 Sep (2) Big Sandy Unit (MCT). **Upland Sandpiper**: 21 Aug (1) EARTH Complex (VBR). **Ruddy Turnstone**: 30 Aug (4+) Pickwick L. (JRW et al.); 16/21 Sep (1/2) Big Sandy Unit (MCT). **Sanderling**: 21 Aug (2) EARTH Complex (VBR); 21 Aug (3) Plum Pt., Lauderdale Co (JRW); 30 Aug (4+) Pickwick L. (JRW et al.); 14 Nov (6) Dacus Bar (JRW); 14 Nov (4) Big Sandy Unit (JRW). **Red Knot**: 13 Aug (11) Dacus Bar (JRW). **Least Sandpiper**: 4 Sep (4400) EARTH Complex (CHB, VBR, LVZ, Barbara Wilson), max. **White-rumped Sandpiper**: 5 Sep (1) EARTH Complex (JRW). **Baird's Sandpiper**: 2 Sep (9) Is. 13, Lake Co (MCT), max. **Pectoral Sandpiper**: 21 Aug (1000 +) EARTH Complex (VBR), max. **Buff-breasted Sandpiper**: 2 Sep (17) Is. 13, Lake Co (MCT); 5/11 Sep (1/10) EARTH Complex (JRW);19 Sep (1) Gibson Co (MAG). **Red-necked Phalarope**: 2/4 Oct (1) Paris Landing (TJW et al.).

Jaeger - Skimmer: **Pomarine Jaeger**: 23 Oct (1) Miss. R., Shelby Co (JRW). **LONG-TAILED JAEGER**: 30 Aug (1) Pickwick L. (Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jon Dunn, JRW, MCT). **SOUTH POLAR SKUA**: 30 Aug (1) Pickwick L. (JRW, Jon Dunn, Brainard Palmer-Ball et al.), 1st state record, pending TBRC. **LITTLE GULL**: 19 Nov thru season (1 im, 1 ad) Blue Bank area, Reelfoot L. (JRW, MCT, MAG). **Laughing Gull**: 30-31 Aug (50+) Pickwick L. (JRW et al.), with 21 still present on 13 Sep (Damien Simbeck); 16-29 Sep (1-10) Pace Pt. area (MCT et al.). **Franklin's Gull**: 29 Sep (2)/6 Nov (26) Paris Landing - Pace Pt. area (MCT), ers/max. **Lesser Black-backed Gull**: 16 Sep - 7 Nov (1 ad) Paris Landing area (MCT et al.). **Herring Gull**: 25 Sep (15) Miss. R., Shelby Co (JRW). **Great Black-backed Gull**: 13 Nov (1, 2nd winter)

Pace Pt. area (JRW). **ROYAL TERN**: 1 Sep (1) Dacus Bar (JRW); 2 Sep (1) Pickwick L. (Damien Simbeck). **Caspian Tern**: 30 Aug (17) Pickwick L. (JRW et al.). **Least Tern**: 30 Aug (1) Pickwick L. (JRW et al.). **SOOTY TERN**: 29-30 Aug (1-3 ad) Pickwick L. (JRW et al.). **Black Tern**: 30-31 Aug (100+) Pickwick L. (JRW et al.). **BLACK SKIMMER**: 30 Aug (1) Pickwick L. (JRW, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jon Dunn); 17 Sep (1) Dacus Bar (JRW).

Dove - Blackbird: **INCA DOVE**: 24 -30 Nov (1) Oakland, Fayette Co (Theresa Graham, m.ob.), pending TBRC. **Short-eared Owl**: 19 Nov (1) Dyer Co (JRW); 25 Nov (1) Lake Co (JRW, MCT, DMa). **Chimney Swift**: 11 Sep (262) midtown Memphis (CHB, Mary Cargill). **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**: 8-11 Aug (150-175) east Shelby Co (Patty Jester fide MGW), max. **Rufous Hummingbird**: 21-24 Nov (1) Oakland, Fayette Co (Theresa Graham), photos verified by Bob Sargent. **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 7 Sep (1) Pace Pt. (MCT). **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**: 16 Sep (1) Henry Co (MCT). **SAY'S PHOEBE**: 29 Nov (1) near Reelfoot Lake SP (MAG). **Fish Crow**: 21 Aug (4) Eagle Lake WMA (CHB, LVZ); 17 Sep (37) Shelby Forest (MTOS). **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**: 18 Nov (1) Shelby Farms (VBR), lrs. **Golden-winged Warbler**: 2 Oct (1) Pace Pt. (TJW), lrs. **Cape May Warbler**: 16 Sep (1) Benton Co (MCT). **Black-throated Blue Warbler**: 26 Oct (1 female) Shelby Forest (VBR). **Blackpoll Warbler**: 5 Oct (1) Big Sandy Unit (MCT). **Mourning Warbler**: 17 Oct (1) Shelby Farms (VBR). **American Tree Sparrow**: 25 Nov (1) Lake Co (MCT, JRW, DMa). **LeConte's Sparrow**: 23 Oct (1) Big Sandy Unit (MCT); 29 Oct (1) EARTH Complex (JRW); 12 Nov (2) Hatchie NWR (JRW). **Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow**: 12 Nov (1) Hatchie NWR (JRW). **Rusty Blackbird**: 14 Nov (1) Shelby Farms (VBR), ers. **Western Meadowlark**: 25 Nov (1) Lauderdale Co (MCT, DMa); 25 Nov (2) Reelfoot L. (JRW, MCT, DMa); 28 Nov (3) EARTH Complex (JRW). **Brewer's Blackbird**: 19 Nov (3) Lake Co (JRW).

Locations: Big Sandy Unit - in Henry Co; Britton Ford - in Henry Co; Dacus Bar - in Shelby Co (in part); Eagle Lake WMA - in Shelby Co; EARTH Complex - in Shelby Co; Everett L. - in Dyer Co; Hatchie NWR - in Haywood Co; Pace Pt. - in Henry Co; Paris Landing - in Henry Co; Pickwick L. - in Hardin Co; Reelfoot L. - in Lake & Obion Cos; Shelby Farms - in Shelby Co; Shelby Forest - in Shelby Co.

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HIGHLAND RIM AND BASIN REGION — The autumn season was quite warm in the Nashville area. All four months were above normal, with temperatures in August and September being nearly four degrees above average. August had nearly seven inches of rain, about twice the normal amount, but over two thirds of it fell on just two days. The remaining months of fall had rainfall deficits of one to three inches. Historically, October is the driest month of the year in Nashville, and this October produced a near record lack of precipitation with only a trace of

rain on three days, almost three inches below normal. Despite the below average September precipitation, the remnants of two major hurricanes (*Katrina* and *Rita*) swept through the region providing possibilities for vagrant seabirds over 400 miles north of the Gulf of Mexico.

Duck - Ibis: **American Wigeon**: 16 Oct (1) Center Hill L. (SJS), ers. **Northern Pintail**: 2 Nov (4) Center Hill L (SJS), ers. **Ring-necked Duck**: 16 Oct (3) Cane Cr. Park, Putnam Co (SJS), ers. **Black Scoter**: 28 Oct (1 female) Center Hill L (SJS), 1st Co record. **Horned Grebe**: 16 Oct (18) Center Hill L (SJS), ers. **GREATER SHEARWATER**: 1 Sep (1) Murfreesboro (fide Denise Weyer, Sandy Bivens), found injured, taken to Warner Parks Nature Center, later died; 1st state record. **American White Pelican**: 10 Nov (8) Duck R. Unit (MCT, DMa). **American Bittern**: 12 Oct (1) Cross Cr. NWR (TJW). **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**: 31 Aug (1 ad) Old Hickory L (CAS). **White Ibis**: 19-26 Aug (1 im) Arrow L., Maury Co (Tommy Edwards).

Harrier - Dowitcher: **Northern Harrier**: 1 Oct (1) Nashville (Linda V. Kelly), ers. **Bald Eagle**: 5 Nov (2 ad) Buffalo R., Perry Co (Anna Varney). **Golden Eagle**: 10 Nov (1 im) Duck R. Unit (MCT, DMa). **Merlin**: 17 Sep (1) Putnam Co (Winston Walden, Michael O'Rourke, Tom Saya). **Peregrine Falcon**: 28 Sep (1) Center Hill L (SJS), 1st Co record. **Virginia Rail**: 6 Sep (1, found dead) Cookeville (Ivan Cordrey fide Susan Ford), 1st Co record. **Sora**: 9 Oct (1) Shelby Park (TJW). **Black-bellied Plover**: 10 Nov (1) Duck R. Unit (MCT, DMa). **Black-necked Stilt**: 8 Oct (1) Gallatin Steam Plant, Sumner Co (CAS, JL). **American Avocet**: 15 Sep (10) Celina, Clay Co (Terry Campbell), 1st Co record. **Sanderling**: 30 Aug (1) Old Hickory L (CAS, PDC). **Short-billed Dowitcher**: 30 Aug (1) Old Hickory L (CAS). **Long-billed Dowitcher**: 10 Nov (12) Duck R. Unit (MCT, DMa).

Gull - Sapsucker: **Laughing Gull**: 30-31 Aug (1-7) Old Hickory L (CAS); 28 Sep (1) Center Hill L (SJS), 1st Co record; 8 Oct (6) Drake's Cr., Sumner Co (CAS, JL). **Franklin's Gull**: 8 / 11 Oct (1) Drake's Cr., Sumner Co (CAS, JL / Ken Oeser). **Ring-billed Gull**: 31 Aug (8) Old Hickory L (CAS). **Common Tern**: 30 Aug (2) Old Hickory L (CAS, PDC). **SOOTY TERN**: 31 Aug (1 ad) Old Hickory L (CAS). **Black Tern**: 30 Aug (38) Old Hickory L (RHC, JKS); 30 Aug (20) Percy-Priest L, Davidson Co (Rob Lane, Jon Mann); 30 Aug (10) Celina, Clay Co (Terry Campbell). **Black-billed Cuckoo**: 5 Sep (1) Radnor L (JKS). **Barn Owl**: mid Aug (4) Watertown, Wilson Co (Jan Donaldson). **Rufous Hummingbird**: 1 Oct - 8 Nov (1 ad female) Lovelady, Pickett Co (Robbie Hassler, banded by CAS). **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**: 4 Oct (1) Nashville (Dee Thompson), ers; 8 Oct (13) Shelby Park (PDC, MAZ, Mark Hackney, Barbara Harris), max.

Flycatcher - Pipit: **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 10 Sep (1) Center Hill L (Michael Hawkins, Judy Fuson). **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**: 2 Sep (1) Shelby Park (PDC), ers; 16 Sep (1) Radnor L (FCF), lrs. **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: 13-16 Oct (2) Rutherford Co (Laura McCall, m.ob.). **Blue-headed Vireo**: 23 Oct (1) Ellington

Ag. Center (JKS), lrs. **Northern Rough-winged Swallow**: 7 Oct (1) Jackson Co (SJS), lrs. **Brown Creeper**: 13 Oct (1) Ellington Ag. Center (JKS, RHC), ers. **Sedge Wren**: 9 Oct (7+) Shelby Bottoms (TJW); 11 Oct (8) Shelby Park (PDC, FCF); 12 Oct (1) Cross Cr. NWR (TJW). **Marsh Wren**: 1 Oct (6) Heritage Marsh (Douglas Downs, SJS); 7 Oct (1, dead) WSMV-TV tower, Nashville (CAS); 9 Oct (1) Shelby Bottoms (TJW); 29 Oct (1) Ellington Ag. Center (JKS). **Golden-crowned Kinglet**: 7 Oct (1/1) DeKalb Co/Ellington Ag. Center (SJS, Barbara Stedman/JKS), ers. **Veery**: 7 Sep (1) Radnor L (FCF), ers; 10 Oct (1) Smithville (TC, VC), lrs. **Swainson's Thrush**: 2 Sep (1) Radnor L (FCF), ers. **Hermit Thrush**: 23 Sep (1) Bedford Co (Melissa Turrentine), rather early. **Wood Thrush**: 8 Oct (1) Shelby Park (PDC, MAZ, Mark Hackney, Barbara Harris), lrs. **Gray Catbird**: 10 Nov (1) Duck R. Unit (MCT, DMa), lrs. **American Pipit**: 29 Oct (11) Heritage Marsh (EKL, SJS), ers.

Warblers: **Golden-winged Warbler**: 5 Sep (1) Radnor L (FCF), ers. **"Brewster's" Warbler**: 19 Aug (1) Smithville (TC, VC). **Tennessee Warbler**: 9 Sep (2) Radnor L (PDC, FCF), ers; 2 Nov (2) Shelby Bottoms (PDC, FCF), lrs. **Nashville Warbler**: 5 Sep (1) Radnor L (JKS), ers; 19 Oct (1) Radnor L (JKS), lrs. **Magnolia Warbler**: 2 Sep (1) Shelby Park (PDC), ers. **Yellow-rumped Warbler**: 28 Sep (1) Radnor L (Susan Hollyday), ers. **Blackburnian Warbler**: 7 Sep (1) Smithville (TC, VC), ers. **Yellow-throated Warbler**: 8 Oct (1) Center Hill L (Carol Williams, Winston Walden, SJS), lrs. **Bay-breasted Warbler**: 9 Sep (1) Smithville (TC, VC), ers. **Louisiana Waterthrush**: 4 Oct (1) Ellington Ag. Center (JKS), new late date Nashville area. **Mourning Warbler**: 7 Sep (1) Radnor L (FCF); 10 Sep (1) Shelby Park (PDC). **Common Yellowthroat**: 10 Nov (1) Duck R. Unit (MCT, DMa), lrs. **Wilson's Warbler**: 5 Sep (2) Shelby Park (PDC), ers. **Canada Warbler**: 3 Sep (1) Shelby Park (PDC, MAZ).

Sparrow - Siskin: **BLACK-THROATED SPARROW**: 29 Nov into winter (1) near Elora, Lincoln Co (Morris Williams, m.ob.), 1st state record. **Grasshopper Sparrow**: 17 Sep (1, singing) Putnam Co (Barbara Stedman); 29 Oct (1) Heritage Marsh (EKL, SJS), lrs. **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 12 Oct (1) Cross Cr. NWR (TJW). **Swamp Sparrow**: 1 Oct (2) Heritage Marsh (SJS, Douglas Downs), ers. **White-crowned Sparrow**: 13 Oct (1) Ellington Ag. Center (JKS, RHC), ers. **Dark-eyed Junco**: 14 Oct (1) Smithville (TC, VC), ers. **Rusty Blackbird**: 24 Nov (1) Ellington Ag. Center (RHC), ers. **Orchard Oriole**: 8 Aug (1) Putnam Co (SJS), lrs. **Pine Siskin**: 16 Sep (1) Smithville (TC, VC), only report.

Locations: Center Hill L - in DeKalb Co; Cross Cr. NWR - in Stewart Co; Duck R. Unit - in Humphreys Co; Ellington Agriculture Center - in Davidson Co; Heritage Marsh - in White Co; Old Hickory L - in Davidson Co; Radnor L - in Davidson Co; Shelby Bottoms/Park - in Davidson Co; Smithville - in DeKalb Co.

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CUMBERLAND PLATEAU / RIDGE & VALLEY REGION — Overall, this was a mild and dry autumn. August and September were typically hot. October was considerably warmer than average, as was the first half of November. Despite an active hurricane season, little rainfall from these systems made it to East Tennessee (that mainly from *Katrina* in late August). The latter three months of the period were all well-deficient in precipitation. September was the second driest on record in the Tri-Cities area with just 0.76 inches of rainfall. An identical amount was all that fell at Chattanooga in October. Essentially no cold fronts passed through the region during September or October.

Low numbers of waterfowl, loons, and grebes were undoubtedly due to the mild temperatures and lack of frontal activity this fall. Water levels on Douglas Lake remained high again this year during August, keeping most of the mudflats at Rankin Bottoms inundated later than in past years, reducing their temporal availability to migrant shorebirds. Avian fallout from Hurricane *Katrina* was primarily limited to the southern end of the region, with Sooty and Bridled Terns plus a Black Skimmer near Chattanooga. The appearance of a Clapper Rail there was likely associated with one of the tropical systems, too. Other mega-rarities this Fall were Broad-tailed Hummingbird and Townsend's Solitaire. A Nashville Warbler photographed in Knoxville in mid-November was the most notable lingerer. Boreal irruptives were nearly non-existent in the region this fall.

Goose - Ibis: **Snow Goose**: 8 Oct (1) Cove Lake SP (NeM); 13 Nov (1 white, 1 blue) John Sevier L., Hawkins Co (Susan Hubley). **Gadwall**: 24 Sep (1) Washington Co (RLK), ers. **Blue-winged Teal**: 23 Sep (250) Rankin Bottoms (MBS, LJG) & (220) Austin Springs (RLK), max; 12 Nov (4) John Sevier L., Hawkins Co (Susan Hubley), lrs. **Northern Pintail**: 7 Oct (1) Washington Co (RLK), ers. **Redhead**: from summer thru fall (1 male) Kingston Steam Plant (AJT, DJT). **Ring-necked Duck**: 17 Sep (1) Austin Springs (RLK), ers. **Black Scoter**: 22 Nov (1 male) Boone L., Sullivan Co portion (RLK). **Common Loon**: 31 Aug (1) Chickamauga L (Bob Edens). **Double-crested Cormorant**: 3 Aug (120) Rankin Bottoms (MBS, LJG), max. **American White Pelican**: 3 Sep - 6 Oct (1, joined by a second 9-13 Sep) Rankin Bottoms (Charlie & Tracey Muise, DHM, MBS, LJG, m.ob.). **BROWN PELICAN**: from Jul thru 10 Oct (1) Chickamauga Dam (m.ob.), a holdover from a summer hurricane. **Great Egret**: 11 Sep (206) Rankin Bottoms (DHM, MBS, LJG), max. **Snowy Egret**: 5 Aug (1) Eagle Bend (AJT); 18 Aug - 27 Sep (1-3, intermittently) Rankin Bottoms (MBS, LJG, m.ob.). **Little Blue Heron**: 6 Aug - 17 Sep (2-17 im, plus 1 ad on 9 Aug) Rankin Bottoms (MBS, LJG, m.ob.). **Cattle Egret**: 27 Aug (75) Kingston Steam Plant (DJT et al.); 17 Sep (130) near Kingston (TSM, RBB); 23 Oct (1) Austin Springs (DAH, TSM), lrs. **Black-crowned Night-Heron**: 26 Aug (12) Kingston Steam Plant (AJT); 9 Sep (20) Rankin Bottoms (MBS, LJG). **White Ibis**: 9-27 Aug (1-5 im, plus 1 ad on 21 Aug) Rankin Bottoms (MBS, LJG, DHM); 19 Aug (1 im) Cove Lake SP (NeM); 24-26 Oct (1 im) Savannah Bay, Hamilton Co (Hill Henry, KAC), quite late.

Osprey - Rail: **Osprey**: 14 Nov (1) Eagle Bend (AJT), lrs. **SWALLOW-TAILED KITE**: 17 Aug (1) Rhea Co (Ed Manous fide DJT). **Bald Eagle**: 5 Aug (1 im) Washington Co (LCM). **Northern Harrier**: 23 Aug (1) Washington Co (DAH), ers. **Merlin**: 12 Oct (1) Greene Co (DAH); 17/30 Oct (1+1) separate Washington Co sites (LCM/LCM, RBB); 26 Oct (1) Hamilton Co (KAC); 16/29 Nov (1+1) separate Sullivan Co sites (RLK/Judy Roach). **Peregrine Falcon**: 24 Sep (4) Soddy Mtn., Hamilton Co (WGH, Jimmy Wilkerson), highest one-day tally at this hawkwatch; 25 Sep (1) Knox Co (fide KDE); 4 Oct (1) Rankin Bottoms (MBS, LJG); 26 Nov (1) Washington Co (RLK); thru season (2) Chickamauga Dam (m.ob.). **CLAPPER RAIL**: 23 Sep (1) Chattanooga (fide David Vogt, photo), found injured, but died, specimen salvaged; 2nd state record. **Virginia Rail**: 21 Sep (1) Greene Co (DAH); thru season (max 16) Standifer Gap Marsh (DEP). **Sora**: 25 Sep (1) Knox Co (fide KDE).

Table 1. Fall 2005 hawkwatch totals from Soddy Mtn., Hamilton Co. (WGH et al.). 4 Sep - 2 Dec; 38 days & 174 hours.

Species	Count	*Species*	Count
Black Vulture	12	Red-shouldered Hawk	9
Turkey Vulture	192	Broad-winged Hawk	2154
Osprey	16	Red-tailed Hawk	63
Bald Eagle	19	American Kestrel	10
Northern Harrier	12	Merlin	2
Sharp-shinned Hawk	52	Peregrine Falcon	7
Cooper's Hawk	16	unknown	3

204 vultures & 2363 hawks = 2567

Shorebirds: **Black-bellied Plover**: 17 Sep - 6 Oct (1-4) Rankin Bottoms (DHM, MBS, LJG, RLK, AJT); 24 Oct (1) Austin Springs (RLK). **American Golden-Plover**: 27/28 Sep (1/2) Rankin Bottoms (AJT/John Moyle). **Willet**: 20 Aug (8) Rhea Co (Jeff Basham); 13-17 Sep (1) Kingston Steam Plant (Boyd Sharp, Steve & Gail Clendenen, m.ob.); 28 Sep - 6 Oct (1) Rankin Bottoms (John Moyle/RLK, m.ob.). **Ruddy Turnstone**: 30 Aug (3) Nickajack L (DCC, RJH). **Sanderling**: 23 Aug - 11 Sep (1-6) Rankin Bottoms (MBS, LJG, m.ob.); 26 Aug - 4 Sep (1) Kingston Steam Plant (AJT, DJT, TJW); 31 Aug (1) Nickajack L (DRJ, DCC, RJH). **Western Sandpiper**: 5 Aug (6) Eagle Bend (AJT); 9 Aug - 1 Oct (1-3) Rankin Bottoms (DHM, MBS, LJG, m.ob.). **Least Sandpiper**: 3 Sep (75) Rankin Bottoms (DHM, MBS, LJG), max. **Baird's Sandpiper**: 27 Aug (1) Rankin Bottoms (DHM). **Dunlin**: 23 Aug/3 Sep (1/3) Rankin Bottoms (AJT/DHM, MBS, LJG), rather early. **Stilt Sandpiper**: 5 Aug (1) Kingston Steam Plant (AJT); 27 Aug - 4 Oct (1-2) Rankin Bottoms (MBS, LJG, m.ob.). **Buff-breasted Sandpiper**: 19-26 Aug (2-1) Eagle Bend (AJT, Charles Nicholson); 13 Sep (1) Rankin Bottoms (RLK). **Short-billed Dowitcher**: 26 Aug (1) Kingston Steam Plant (AJT). **Long-billed Dowitcher**: 3 Aug (1) Rankin Bottoms (MBS, LJG). **Dowitcher sp.**: 21 Nov (5) Blount Co (Tom Howe). **Wilson's Snipe**: 23 Aug (1) Rankin Bottoms (AJT, MBS, LJG), ers; 21 Sep (1) Sullivan Co (CJO, Charlie Parker). **American Woodcock**: 24 Sep (1) Greene Co (DHM).

Gull - Skimmer: **Laughing Gull**: 31 Aug (7) Chickamauga L (KAC); 2 Sep (8) Nickajack L (KAC); 3 Sep (6) Rankin Bottoms (DHM, MBS, LJG); 26 Sep/1 Oct (2/12) Chickamauga L (KAC, Judy Newsome/KDE); 26 Sep (1) Knox Co (fide KDE). **Bonaparte's Gull**: 1 Oct (1) Rankin Bottoms (RLK et al.), ers. **Ring-billed Gull**: 28 Aug/3 Sep (13/30) Rankin Bottoms (DHM, DAH/MBS, LJG). **Caspian Tern**: 28 Aug (10) Rankin Bottoms (DHM, DAH); 26-27 Aug (3) Kingston Steam Plant (AJT, DJT); 31 Aug - 3 Sep (1-4) Nickajack L (DRJ, KAC, RJH); 4 Sep (5) Austin Springs (RLK). **Common Tern**: 31 Aug - 3 Sep (1-3) Nickajack L (DRJ, RJH, KAC). **Forster's Tern**: 30 Aug (3) Fort Loudoun & Tellico Dams, Loudon Co (KDE, DAM); 3 Sep (2) Hamilton Co (KAC); 17 Sep (3) Rankin Bottoms (DHM); 1 Oct (1) Chickamauga L (KDE). **Least Tern**: 30 Aug (3) Chickamauga L (KAC, DRJ, RJH et al.). **BRIDLED TERN**: 30 Aug (2) Tennessee R., Hamilton Co (KAC, DRJ, RJH, Jim Eager), seen with Sooty Terns for comparison. **SOOTY TERN**: 30 Aug (5 ad, 1 im) Tenn. R., Hamilton Co (KAC, RJH, DRJ, DCC, CDB, Rick Waldrop, Jim Eager), apparently this is the first im. ever seen in the state. **Black Tern**: 13 Aug (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (Charles & Dreama Dean); 30-31 Aug (15-11) Chickamauga L (KAC, RJH et al.); 30 Aug (21) Nickajack L (DCC, RJH); 30 Aug (2) Fort Loudoun & Tellico Dams, Loudon Co (KDE, DAM); 30 Aug (9) Melton Hill L., Knox & Anderson Cos (KDE). **BLACK SKIMMER**: 2 Sep (1) Tenn. R., Hamilton Co (KAC, DRJ, Kathy Jacobson et al.).

Dove - Thrush: **Eurasian Collared-Dove**: 30 Sep (1) Roane Co (Wes James); thru season (1-4) Greene Co (DHM). **Black-billed Cuckoo**: 6 Sep (1) Craven's House (KAC). **Yellow-billed Cuckoo**: 17 Oct (1) Greene Co (DHM), lrs. **Barn Owl**:

1 Aug (1) Greene Co (DHM). **Northern Saw-whet Owl**: 5 Nov (1, banded) Seven Is. Refuge (Jim Giocomo). **Whip-poor-will**: 24 Sep (2, calling) Pickett State Forest, Pickett Co (SJS), lrs. **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**: 24 Oct (1) Johnson City (LCM, Janet Brown), lrs. **BROAD-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD**: 24 Nov - 12 Dec (1 im. male, banded 3 Dec by CAS) Signal Mtn., Hamilton Co (Dan Williams, m.ob.), 2nd state record. **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 14 Aug (1) Greene Co (DHM, DAH, AJT, DJT, Jim Holt, Alice Loftin); 25 Sep (1) Knox Co (DAM). **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**: 6 Sep (1) Craven's House (KAC); 9 Sep (1) Greene Co (DHM). **Least Flycatcher**: 25 Aug/1 Sep (1, banded/1) separate Hamilton Co sites (David Aborn/KAC). **Philadelphia Vireo**: 26 Sep - 15 Oct (6 reports) Hamilton Co (fide KAC). **Common Raven**: 23 Oct (2) Kingsport (Rick Phillips). **Tree Swallow**: 1 Oct (2000+) Rankin Bottoms (RLK et al.), max. **Sedge Wren**: 21 Aug (5) Seven Is. Refuge (Jim Giocomo); 30 Sep - 5 Oct (2-5) Greene Co (DAH); 10 Oct thru season (1-2) Standifer Gap Marsh (DEP); 18-26 Oct (4 -5) Brainerd Levee, Hamilton Co (KAC, CDB). **Marsh Wren**: 10 Oct (1) Greene Co (DAH); 12 Oct thru season (3-8) Standifer Gap Marsh (DEP); 18-26 Oct (1-2) Brainerd Levee, Hamilton Co (KAC, CDB). **TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE**: 20 Nov (1) Seven Is. Refuge (DAM, Laurie Mooney), 1st state record. **Gray-cheeked Thrush**: 24 Sep (6) Pickett State Forest, Pickett Co. (SJS), max.

Warbler - Siskin: **Blue-winged Warbler**: 25 Sep (1) Craven's House (CDB), lrs. **Golden-winged Warbler**: 14 Aug/11 Sep/2 Oct (1/2/1) Craven's House (KAC); 24 Aug (1) Knox Co (DAM); 4 Sep/1 Oct (1) Hamilton Co (Libby Wolfe). **Tennessee Warbler**: 27 Aug (1) Rankin Bottoms (DHM), ers; 1 Nov (1) Hamilton Co (David Aborn), lrs. **Orange-crowned Warbler**: 26 Oct (1) Hamilton Co (KAC); 29 Oct (1) Kyker Bottoms, Blount Co (KTOS). **Nashville Warbler**: 17 Nov (1) Knox Co (DAM, Laurie Mooney), lrs. **Yellow-throated Warbler**: 1 Oct (1) Hawkins Co (DHM), lrs. **Cerulean Warbler**: 6 Sep (3) Craven's House (KAC), lrs. **Worm-eating Warbler**: 29 Sep (1) Craven's House (KAC), lrs. **Wilson's Warbler**: 31 Aug (1) Knox Co (DAM), ers; 23 Sep (3) Hamilton Co (Libby Wolfe, Susan Schott), lrs. **Yellow-breasted Chat**: 28 Sep (1) Cove Lake SP (NeM), lrs. **Grasshopper Sparrow**: 20 Oct (1) Sullivan Co (Rick Phillips), lrs. **Henslow's Sparrow**: 26 Oct (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (Jim Eager). **LeConte's Sparrow**: 9 Nov (1) Greene Co (DAH). **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 21 Sep (1) Washington Co (LCM); 19-26 Oct (3 reports) Hamilton Co (KAC); 23 Oct (1) Greene Co (DHM). **Swamp Sparrow**: 24 Sep (1) Greene Co (DHM), ers. **Bobolink**: 13 Oct (1) Washington Co (RLK), lrs. **Rusty Blackbird**: 29 Oct (4) Kyker Bottoms, Blount Co (KTOS), ers. **Brown-headed Cowbird**: 25 Aug (juvenile attended by Song Sparrow) Knox Co (KDE), late. **Purple Finch**: 8 Oct (1) Hamilton Co (Carol Fegarido), ers; 20 Oct (1) Washington Co (LCM). **Pine Siskin**: 15 Nov (2) Hamilton Co (Carol Fegarido), only report.

Locations: Austin Springs - in Washington Co; Chickamauga L. - in Hamilton Co; Cove Lake SP - in Campbell Co; Craven's House - unit of Chattanooga & Chickamauga National Military Park in Hamilton Co; Eagle Bend - fish hatchery

in Anderson Co; Kingston Steam Plant - in Roane Co; Nickajack L. - in Marion Co; Rankin Bottoms - in Cocke Co; Seven Is. Refuge - in Knox Co; Standifer Gap Marsh - in Hamilton Co.

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EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION — Daily temperatures were above normal for the period, with average temperatures about 3 degrees warmer than usual. Precipitation was below average for the period by about 4 inches.

Banding operations were conducted at three locations in the region this fall. Tennessee Warblers made a significant recovery after last year's drastic drop in numbers. Bay-breasted Warblers were in good numbers on Roan and Big Bald mountains. Swainson's Thrush made a good showing this year. A Dark-eyed Junco which had been banded on 30 September 2004 at Big Bald Mountain was netted at the Roan Mountain station on 9 October this year, a straight line distance of approximately 23 miles. Below are summaries for each station:

Big Bald Mountain, Unicoi County: 3 September - 1 November (1826 birds of 55 species banded); G. Rad Mayfield, bander. Top species banded: Tennessee Warbler (580), Swainson's Thrush (332), Dark-eyed Junco (205), Black-throated Blue Warbler (190), Bay-breasted Warbler (81).

Carver's Gap on Roan Mountain, Carter County, TN and Mitchell County, NC: 6 September - 11 October (502 birds of 34 species banded); Richard L. Knight, bander. Top species banded: Tennessee Warbler (98), Dark-eyed Junco (86), Swainson's Thrush (71), Black-throated Blue Warbler (64), Golden-crowned Kinglet (28).

Whigg Meadows, Monroe County: 3-24 September (680 birds of 43 species banded); David F. Vogt, bander. Top species banded: Tennessee Warbler (159), Black-throated Blue Warbler (101), Swainson's Thrush (83), Dark-eyed Junco (46), Hooded Warbler (28).

Duck - Heron: **Gadwall**: 17 Nov (1) Erwin, Unicoi Co (BKS), ers. **Blue-winged Teal**: 30 Aug (5) S. Holston L. (JWC, CJO), ers; 23 Sep (80) / 10 Nov (3) S. Holston L. (RLK), max / lrs. **Northern Pintail**: 5 Nov (7) S. Holston L. (JWC et al.). **Ring-necked Duck**: 10 Nov (136) S. Holston L. (RLK), max. **Greater Scaup**: 16 Nov (18) S. Holston L. (TSM et al.), max. **Lesser Scaup**: 16 Nov (105) S. Holston L. (RLK), max. **Ruddy Duck**: 23 Nov (31) S. Holston L. (TSM), max. **Wild Turkey**: 6 Sep (10) Roan Mtn , at 5200 ft. elevation (RLK), unusually high. **Common Loon**: 22 Nov (167) Watauga L (TSM), max. **Horned Grebe**: 21 Nov (36) S. Holston L. (Rack Cross), max. **Eared Grebe**: 23 Sep (2) / 26 Oct (14) S. Holston L. (RLK / JWC, CJO), ers / max there, 12th consecutive autumn appearance at this site; 25 Oct (21) Chota, Tellico L., Monroe

Co (Boyd Sharp, Steve & Gail Clendenen). **Double-crested Cormorant**: 18 Aug (1) S. Holston L. (JWC), ers; 22 Nov (65) Watauga L. (TSM), max. **Great Egret**: 14 Oct (1) Watauga R. (TSM), lrs. **Black-crowned Night-Heron**: 18 Aug (6) S. Holston L. (DAH, Dianne Draper). **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**: 6 Aug (2 nestlings) Elizabethton (DAH, Dianne Draper), young still on nest; 30 Sep (1) Elizabethton (GOW), lrs.

Eagle - Tern: **Bald Eagle**: 30 Aug (1) S. Holston L. (JWC, CJO); 17 Sep (1 ad) Watauga L. (Charlie Parker); 24 Sep (1 im) Watauga R. (GOW et al.). **Red-shouldered Hawk**: 18 Sep (1) Carver's Gap (RLK); 29 Oct (1) Shady Valley (DAH, TSM, BKS et al.). **Merlin**: 10, 18, 21 Sep & 4 Oct (1) Carver's Gap (RLK). **Peregrine Falcon**: 11/24 Sep (1/2) Big Bald Mtn. (GRM); 23 Sep (1) Carver's Gap (RLK); 24/30 Sep (1) Watauga R. (GOW); 24 Sep (1) Unaka Mtn, Unicoi Co (Joe McGuiness, Kim Stroud); 8 Oct (1) Shady Valley (Bill Grigsby, Janice Martin et al.). **Sora**: 29 Oct (1) Shady Valley (DAH, TSM, BKS et al.). **American Coot**: 10 Nov (663) S. Holston L. (RLK), max. **American Golden-Plover**: 16 Nov (1) S. Holston L. (RLK, Rack Cross). **Willet**: 31 Aug (1) S. Holston L. (JWC). **Sanderling**: 30 Aug (2) S. Holston L. (JWC, CJO). **Dunlin**: 6/23 Nov (1) S. Holston L. (RLK/TSM). **American Woodcock**: 14 Sep - 5 Oct (1) Carver's Gap (RLK). **Bonaparte's Gull**: 29 Oct (1) S. Holston L. (JWC), ers. **Herring Gull**: 23 Oct (3) S. Holston L. (TSM, DAH), ers. **Caspian Tern**: 18 Aug (1) S. Holston L. (DAH, Dianne Draper). **Common Tern**: 30 Aug (1) S. Holston L. (JWC). **Black Tern**: 18/30 Aug (3/15) S. Holston L. (JWC).

Pigeon - Pipit: **Rock Pigeon**: 11 Sep (1) Carver's Gap (LCM, RLK et al.), unusual at high elevation. **Mourning Dove**: 6-23 Sep (1) Carver's Gap (RLK). **Barn Owl**: thru period (2-4, calling) Holston Valley, Sullivan Co (Richard Lewis). **Northern Saw-whet Owl**: 18 Sep (1, calling) Carver's Gap (RLK); 24 Sep (1, calling) Unaka Mtn, Unicoi Co (Joe McGuiness); 30 Sep - 29 Oct (12 banded) Big Bald Mtn (Mark Hopey, Kathy Gunther). **Rufous Hummingbird**: 1 Oct thru season (1 ad. female, banded 9 Nov) Elizabethton (GOW, Bob Sargent), 4th consecutive fall/winter that this site has hosted this species. ***Selasphorus* sp.**: 24/29 Oct (1+1, female-types) separate Carter Co sites (fide BKS). **Red-headed Woodpecker**: 24 Sep (1) Hampton (BKS); 28 Sep (1) Carver's Gap (RLK). **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 10 Sep (1) Roan Mtn (Fred Alsop). **Eastern Wood-Pewee**: 20 Oct (1, banded) Big Bald Mtn (GRM), lrs. **Great Crested Flycatcher**: 24 Sep (1) Johnson Co (TSM), lrs. **Yellow-throated Vireo**: 12 Sep (1, banded) Big Bald Mtn (GRM). **Philadelphia Vireo**: 5 Sep (1) Hampton (BKS); 20/21/28 Sep (1 banded each day) Big Bald Mtn (GRM); 23 Sep (1, banded) Whigg Meadows (DFV). **Common Raven**: 14 Aug (4) Camp Cr. Bald, Greene Co (DHM). **Horned Lark**: 18 Nov (1-2) Roan Mtn. balds (RLK). **Carolina Chickadee**: 22 Sep (1, banded) Big Bald Mtn (GRM), high elevation. **Black-capped Chickadee**: 4 Sep (1) Whigg Meadows (DFV), recapture of bird banded there in 2000. **Ruby-crowned Kinglet**: 9 Sep (1) Carver's Gap (RLK), ers. **Hermit Thrush**: 14 Sep (1) Carver's Gap (RLK), likely a local breeder. **American Pipit**: 22 Sep (3) Carver's Gap (RLK), ers; 1 Nov (130) Holston Valley, Sullivan Co (JWC), max.

Warbler - Siskin: **Blue-winged Warbler**: 9/16 Sep (1 banded each day) Whigg Meadows (DFV); 24 Sep (1) Pond Mtn., Carter Co (TSM); 28 Sep (1) Great Smoky Mtns. National Park (Charlie Muise). **Golden-winged Warbler**: 5 Sep (1, banded) Big Bald Mtn (GRM); 8/9/20 Sep (1/1/2, all banded) Whigg Meadows (DFV). **Orange-crowned Warbler**: 16/20 Oct (1+1) separate Carter Co sites (DAH/BKS). **Nashville Warbler**: 3-22 Sep (9, banded) Big Bald Mtn (GRM). **Cape May Warbler**: 20 Oct (1) Hampton (BKS), lrs. **Blackpoll Warbler**: 22 Sep (1, banded) Carver's Gap (RLK); 14 Oct (1, banded) Big Bald Mtn (GRM). **Northern Waterthrush**: 10 Sep (1, banded) Carver's Gap (RLK). **Mourning Warbler**: 10 Sep (1) Big Bald Mtn (Rad Mayfield); 14 Sep (1) Stoney Cr., Carter Co (TSM). **Wilson's Warbler**: 4 Sep (1, banded) Whigg Meadows (DFV). **Yellow-breasted Chat**: 24 Sep (1) Carter Co (TSM), lrs. **Vesper Sparrow**: 29 Oct (5) Elizabethton (DAH, TSM, BKS et al.), max. **Savannah Sparrow**: 22 Sep (1) Carver's Gap (RLK), ers. **Fox Sparrow**: 24 Oct (3) Tremont, Great Smoky Mtns. National Park (Charlie Muise), ers. **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 3 Oct (1) Carver's Gap (RLK). **Snow Bunting**: 1 Nov (1, banded) Big Bald Mtn (Mark Hopey, Kathy Gunther). **Northern Cardinal**: 23 Oct (female feeding 2 young) Hampton (BKS), late. **Bobolink**: 8 Oct (3) Elizabethton (TSM), lrs. **Pine Siskin**: 5 Sep thru season (2-8) Roan Mtn (RLK).

Locations: Big Bald Mtn - in Unicoi Co; Carver's Gap - on Roan Mtn., Carter Co; Hampton - in Carter Co; Roan Mtn - in Carter Co; Shady Valley - in Johnson Co; S. Holston L - in Sullivan Co; Watauga L - in Carter & Johnson Cos; Watauga R - in Carter Co; Whigg Meadows - in Monroe Co.

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